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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

## RESPONSE TO THE FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED DECEMBER 9, 2004

To: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Alexandria, VA 22313

From: William J. Breen III (Tel. 509-324-9256; Fax 509-323-8979)

Customer No. 22801

This communication is in response to the Final Office Action dated December 9, 2004, for which a three-month shortened statutory period for response is set for March 9, 2004.

Amendments to the Claims begin at page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin at page 9 of this paper.

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